Setting up of Indo-Russian Education Centre

556. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University and Committee of Higher Education of Russian Federation have signed some agreement for setting up of an Indo-Russian Education Centre at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof with terms of reference of the agreement;

(c) whether expenditure for the setting up of the centre will be borne by both the countries equally;

(d) if so, the details thereof if not the reasons therefor;

(e) whether similar agreements have also been signed between other foreign countries and Indian Institutions in the past;

(f) whether Government propose to get such agreements signed in future; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (g) The universities and other institutions of higher education in the country have been signing agreements with foreign universities/insitutions for mutual co-operation in academic fields. While the Government encourages such moves, its role in these matters is only that of a facilitator. So far as the University of Delhi is concerned, it has signed many Memoranda of Understanding with foreign universities. Recently a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed by this University and State Committee on higher Education of Russian Federation for setting up a Russian Education Centre at Delhi University with the following broad profile of activities:

Conduct of different courses in Russian Language, including one for H R D students sponsored by the Ministry of H.R.D.

— Preparation of Indian citizens for studies at the Russian institutions of higher education with a view to eliminating the preparatory faculty courses in Russia.

— Faculty improvement programmes for Indian teachers and for specialists.

on the basis of the MOU the University and the State Committee on Higher Education of Russian Federation would jointly discuss the financial and other details of the proposal for creating the Centre and for formulating the regulations about the Centre so that formal agreement to that effect could be signed.

Irregularities by council for Isce

557. SHRI V GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many schools sent candidates to various examinations held by Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations this year, the details thereof:

(b) whether it is a fact that many schools have refused to send their candidates to Council Ekaminations for the coming year because of a large scale frauds/irregularities/mistakes in printing mark-sheets/lists by the Council;

(c) if so, which are the schools that have failed to send candidates to Council Examination for the coming year;

(d) whether the Council has discussed these issues in its meetings;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Council has informed the appropriate authorities regarding the action taken, remedial steps to be initiated to revamp the Council; and

(g) if not, what action is proposed to be initiated against the Council under the Delhi Education Act?